

DELL

Still 10¢

MAY 1963

Jace Pearson's
TEXAS
Tales of the
RANGERS

Masquerader
at large...
on the
TRAIL TO
SIERRA VERDE



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Jack Pearson's
Tales of the
**TEXAS
RANGERS**

**TRAIL TO
SIERRA VERDE**

ONE DAY IN 1880, THE SOUTHERN EXPRESS POUNDS
ACROSS THE TEXAS PLAINS, THE MAIL CAR CARRYING
\$100,000 IN HEAVILY-MINTED GOLD COINS...



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DELL COMICS ARE GOOD COMICS



MEANWHILE, IN STARKTON...

LOOK,
IT'S JOE!

HIYA, JOE!
WHAT
KEPT YOU
SO LONG?

LISTEN! HAVE EITHER OF
YOU BOYS BEEN SPENDING
ANY OF THOSE GOLD COINS
WE GOT FROM THE ROBBERY?



NOT YET!
WHAT'S THE
TROUBLE?
YOU LOOK
UPSET!

TAKE A LOOK
AT THIS REWARD
POSTER! EVERY
ONE OF THOSE
COINS IS DATED

1890 AND MARKED
WITH AN 'X'... FRESH
FROM THE MINT! WE'VE
LEFT A TRAIL A BLIND
MAN COULD
FOLLOW!



MARKED COINS!
HOW DO YOU
LIKE THAT!

HIDE THAT POSTER!
HERE COMES THE LAW!



HOWDY, STRANGERS! COULD I
INTEREST YOU IN SOME TICKETS
FOR THE RODEO THIS SATURDAY?
EVERYONE IN TOWN IS GOING!

HOW
MUCH
ARE
THEY,
SHERIFF?



TWO DOLLARS A PIECE!
THE MONEY GOES FOR
A GOOD CAUSE: WE'RE
RAISING FUNDS TO BUILD
A NEW JAIL!

THAT IS A
GOOD CAUSE!
HERE'S A TEN-
SPOT! WE'LL
TAKE FIVE
TICKETS!



BOSS!
WHERE'D
YOU GET
THAT
GREEN-
BACK?

NEVER MIND
NOW! WHO'S
THAT?

HALLOO!



'SOUSE ME ,GENTS! I COULDN'T HELP NOTICING THAT YOU WERE STRANGERS! I CAN LET YOU IN ON A FORTUNE IF YOU WANT TO INVEST A SMALL SUM... LIKE SAY - A HUNDRED DOLLARS !

BEAT IT!

WE'RE NOT INTERESTED.

I HAVE PLENTY OF CLAIMS OUT THERE IN THE HILLS! ALL I NEED IS A SMALL STAKE! HOW ABOUT FIFTY DOLLARS?

GRUB-STAKE!

HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I WARNED YOU ABOUT TAKING ADVANTAGE OF STRANGERS? NOW LEAVE THESE GENTS ALONE BEFORE I KICK YOU IN!

AAAAHWW! I WASN'T BOTHERIN' 'EM!

LET ME KNOW IF HE PESTERS YOU AGAIN! IT'S MY JOB TO PROTECT HONEST CITIZENS FROM PEOPLE LIKE AHM!

THANKS!

YOU KNOW...THAT SHERIFF BACK THERE JUST GAVE ME AN IDEA! SINCE WE CAN'T CASH ANY OF THOSE GOLD COINS WE GOT IN THE ROBBERY, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO GET SOME MONEY!

YOU MEAN...THE OLD MAN?

NO...THE BANK! THE SHERIFF SAID EVERYBODY IN TOWN WILL BE AT THE RODEO ON SATURDAY! THAT OUGHT TO LEAVE THE LOCAL BANK ~~WIDE OPEN~~ FOR US!

THE FOLLOWING FRIDAY EVENING JACE
AND CLAY NEAR STARKTON...

JACE... I'M BOO-
TISED! IT'S BEEN
A LONG, HARD RIDE!
LET'S MAKE CAMP
FOR THE NIGHT!

GOOD IDEA! WE CAN
GIVE OUR HORSES A
REST AND RIDE INTO
STARKTON TOMORROW!



SUDDENLY...

LOOK OUT!

IT CAME FROM
OVER THERE!



KEEP HIM PINNED DOWN IF YOU CAN!
I'LL CIRCLE AROUND BEHIND HIM!



THAT'S JUST
ABOUT ENOUGH,
OLD-TIMER!



NOW—WHAT'S
THIS ALL
ABOUT?

WHY...YOU'RE *BANDERS!*
I THOUGHT YOU WERE
CLAM JUMPERS!



QUICKLY THE OLD MAN EXPLAINS...

SO YOU SEE... I HAVE CLAIMS ALL OVER TEXAS, AND NO VAMPIRE'S GONNA GRAB 'EM FROM ME! I COULDA' WISHED YOU IF I WANTED! I JUST TRIED TO SCARE YOU OFF!

DO YOU ALWAYS SHOOT AT ANYONE WHO GETS NEAR YOUR CLAIMS?

NOT ALWAYS! BUT DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY I RAN INTO THREE SUSPICIOUS-LOOKING STRANGERS IN STARKTON! THEY LOOKED LIKE A BUNCH OF NO-GOODS!

STARKTON, ENT?

WHAT DO WE DO WITH HIM, JACE?

LET HIM GO! IT WAS JUST A MISTAKE! BUT ~~WE'RE~~ WE'RE HEADING FOR STARKTON... TOMORROW!

THE FOLLOWING MORNING, THE ENTIRE POPULATION OF STARKTON IS AT THE RODEO GROUNDS...

SHERIFF'S RODEO

HURRY IT UP! THERE'S NO ONE AROUND! BRING THE DYNAMITE AND THE TOOLS!

MINUTES LATER...

WHAT WAS THAT?

AN EXPLOSION OF SOME KIND! LET'S GET INTO TOWN!

BOOM!

LOOK, JACE! UP AHEAD!

IT COULD BE THE BARKER GANG! AFTER THEM!

THEY'RE SPITTING UP,
JACE!

I'LL FOLLOW THE ONE
WITH THE MONEY!



ALL RIGHT, MISTER!
YOU'VE HAD
YOUR FUN!



LET'S GO BACK
TO TOWN AND
SEE WHAT
THIS IS ALL
ABOUT!



AFTER BLINDING CLAY, THE OTHER TWO OUTLAWS MEET
AT AN OLD GHOST TOWN, DEEP IN THE HILLS...

SLIM! WHERE'S
RED... AND THE
LOOT?

THE RANGERS GOT HIM!
I NEARLY GOT CAUGHT
MYSELF!



WHAT'S
OUR
NEXT
MOVE,
JOE?

WE'LL LIE LOW UNTIL
I CAN FIGURE A WAY TO
GET SOME MONEY, GET
RED OUT OF JAIL, AND
GET THOSE RANGERS
OFF OUR TRAIL! THAT'S
A BIG ORDER... BUT I
LIKE 'EM BIG!



KEEP THE HORSES
DOWN WHILE I
PUT A POT OF
COFFEE ON!

NO, YOU DON'T. YOU
WARMINT! REACH! I
FILED CLAIM ON THIS
WHOLE BLASTED TOWN
AND NO CLAIM JUMPER'S
GONNA MOVE IN ON ME!



POP...YOU'RE CRAZY!
WE'RE NOT INTERESTED
IN YOUR CLAIM!

OH, NOT YOU
HAD YOUR
CHANCE TO BUY
IN WITH ME!
NOW IT'S TOO LATE!
SO GET OUT OF HERE!
SO ON... SCAT!



THE OLD
COOT!
I'LL...

HOLD IT, SLIM! WAIT! THAT OLD MAN
JUST GAVE ME AN IDEA FOR A WAY TO
GET SOME READY CASH OUT OF THOSE
GOLD COINS!



HERE! TAKE THESE OVER TO
THAT OLD SMELTER AND
MELT THEM DOWN INTO
NUGGETS!

NUGGETS? WHAT'S
THE IDEA?



NUGGETS DON'T HAVE ANY
TELLTALE MARKINGS! AND OLD
GRUBSTAKE THERE COULD PASS
'EM...OR I COULD,
DISGUISED AS HIM!



FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS, JOE BARKER
PRACTICES HIS DISGUISE...

THERE! NOW
DO I LOOK?

JUST LIKE HIM!
YOU'RE BEGINNING
TO SOUND LIKE
HIM, TOO!

YOU 'GASHENTS!
YOU'LL NEVER
GET AWAY
WITH THIS!

OKAY, OLD MAN...
SIGN YOUR NAME
ON THIS!

I WON'T
DO IT!



I SAID
SIGN!



CHARLIE GREENHILL...
THAT'S FINE! NOW I'LL
JUST PRACTICE UNTIL
I CAN WRITE IT AS
WELL AS YOU CAN!

THE NEXT MORNING

WE'VE BEEN RIDING THESE
HILLS FOR TWO DAYS AND
HAVEN'T SEEN A TRACE
OF BARKER'S GANG!
THEY'RE PROBABLY
IN NEW MEXICO
BY NOW!

MAYBE SO... BUT
WE'RE GOING TO KEEP
LOOKING UNTIL WE FIND
OUT! THAT FELLOW WE
CAPTURED WOULDN'T
GIVE US ANY
INFORMATION!

SAY... THERE'S
SOMEBODY! CAN
YOU MAKE OUT
WHO IT IS?

SURE! IT'S THAT
OLD PROSPECTOR
WHO'S LAID
CLAIM TO HALF
OF TEXAS! HE'S
HEADED THIS WAY!



HOWDY, CRUSTAKE!
HAVE YOU SEEN ANY
WARMINTS IN THESE
PARTS LATELY?

WHAT KIND OF
WARMINTS ARE
YOU LOOKIN'
FOR, BOYS?



THE KIND YOU
TIPPED US OFF
ABOUT...THE
ONES IN
STARKTON!

YOU SURE HAD THE RIGHT
MUNCH! WE GOT ONE OF
THEM RIGHT AFTER THEY
ROBBERED THE BANK!

WELL, GOOD
FOR YOU!
YESSIRREE...
GOOD FOR YOU!



WE'RE STILL
LOOKING FOR
TWO OF THEM!
WE THOUGHT
MAYBE THEY
MIGHT HAVE
HEADED
THIS WAY!

SAY... COME TO THINK
OF IT — I SAW TWO
FELLERS YESTERDAY,
RIDING WEST TOWARD
SPRING CITY!



THAT COULD
BE THEM!
COME ON, CLAY
...OUR NEXT
STOP IS
SPRING CITY!

SO LONG,
OLD-TIMER
...AND
THANKS!

YOU'RE WELCOME...
I
SUCKERS!



BACK IN STARKTON, THE RANGERS
CHECK IN WITH THE SHERIFF...

KEEP RED ADAMS HERE UNTIL
WE GET BACK FROM SPRING
CITY, WILL YOU, SHERIFF? AND
IF YOU GET ANY INFORMATION,
WIRE US AT THE RANGER
OFFICE THERE!

YOU BET...
AND GOOD
HUNTING,
BOYS!



BUT AS THEY START TO LEAVE...

SHERIFF! SOMETHING
JUST HAPPENED OVER
AT THE BANK!

WHAT IS IT,
MR. TOMKINS?
ANOTHER
ROBBERY?



NO...BUT SOMEHOWS-IF WRONG! OLD GRUBSTAKE CAME IN WITH SOME NUGGETS JUST NOW...AND LOOK HOW HE SIGNED HIS NAME! CHARLIE GREENMILL! WHY WOULD HE DO THAT WHEN HIS REAL NAME IS

CHARLIE WALTERS?

LET'S GO OVER TO THE BANK AND FIND OUT!



MOMENTS LATER, AT THE BANK...

JACE, LOOK AT THIS! THESE NUGGETS ARE DIFFERENT SHAPES, BUT THEY ALL WEIGH THE SAME!

YOU'RE RIGHT, CLAY! AND EACH ONE HAS EXACTLY THE SAME WEIGHT AS A TWENTY-DOLLAR GOLD PIECE!



WE, TOMPKINS, ...I'VE A HUNCH THAT WASN'T GRUBSTAKE WHO CAME IN HERE! I'LL BET IT WAS JOE "THE ACTOR" BARKER, PLAYING ONE OF HIS PARTS AGAIN!

YOU MEAN... IT WASN'T GRUBSTAKE AT ALL?



EVIDENTLY THEY'RE HOLDING GRUBSTAKE WHILE BARKER HASGUADEAS AS HIM! BUT GRUBSTAKE MUST'VE GIVEN JOE A FAKE NAME SO THAT MR TOMPKINS WOULD GET SUSPICIOUS!

THEN WHAT DO WE DO NEXT... LIE LOW AND GRAB HIM THE NEXT TIME HE COMES TO TOWN?



NO! WE STILL WOULDN'T HAVE THE WHOLE GANGS...OR THE REST OF THE GOLD PIECES! BUT NOW THAT WE'RE PRETTY SURE HE'S STILL CLOSE AROUND, WE'LL LET RED ADAMS TELL US WHERE! LISTEN...



LATER THAT DAY, JACE'S PLAN GOES INTO ACTION...

DON'T MOVE, SHERIFF! DON'T MAKE A SOUND!





AND AXL IS SIERRA...
RIGHT? PUT THEM TOGETHER
...IT'S VERDE SIERRA...OR
REVERSE THEM...
SIERRA VERDE!

SURE! THE NAME
OF THAT OLD GHOST
TOWN NEAR HERE!
THAT'S WHERE
THEY ARE!



JACE...YOU'RE
A GENIUS!

NOT ME...
GRUBSTAKE!
COME ON,
LET'S GO!



MEANWHILE, IN SIERRA VERDE...

BOY...WOULD I LIKE TO
SEE THE LOOK ON THOSE
RANGERS' FACES WHEN
THEY CATCH UP WITH
THAT HORSE OF YOURS!

YEAH...THEY'RE
GONNA FEEL
PRETTY SILLY!



IMAGINE...TRYING TO
OUTSMART US BY GIVING
YOU A HORSE WITH A
MARKED SHOE!

YOU'LL BE
LAUGHING ON
THE OTHER SIDE
OF YOUR FACE
FORE LONG!



BOSS! THERE'S A
COUPLE OF RIDERS
COMIN' UP THE CANYON
HEADED THIS WAY!
IT WAS TOO FAR TO
TELL WHO THEY
WERE!

THOSE ARE
RANGERS, YOU
SKEWINNERS!
I KNEW THEY'D
GET MY
MESSAGE!



WHAT
MESSAGE?

MY NAME AINT
GREENHILL!
GREEN WILL...
THAT'S SIERRA
VERDE IN
ENGLISH! THE
NAME OF THIS
TOWN!

SUM...GAS
THAT OLD
BLASSER-
MOUTH,
THEN YOU
AND RED GET
INTO POSITION!
WE WANT TO BE
READY FOR THEM
WHEN THEY COME!



A SHORT TIME LATER, AS THE RANGERS APPROACH, GRUBSTAKE WATCHES FOR HIS OPPORTUNITY, THEN LURCHES BACK IN HIS CHAIR, CAUSING THE GUN TO FIRE ...



AND ALERTS JACE AND CLAY ...



QUICK! GET OUT OF SIGHT!



YOU GET THE ONE ACROSS THE STREET! I'LL TAKE THE BARN!

RIGHT!



ACROSS THE STREET...

OKAY, RANGER! THAT'S AS FAR AS YOU GO!









Herman Bumble stared bleakly at the barren landscape and sighed, "It isn't much, but at least it's ours!"

"Oh, Herman!" his wife, Bessie, moaned. "I told you we should have looked over the land before we bought it!"

"You know we couldn't afford a special trip from Maryland just to look at the land," Herman replied. "Besides, the advertisement said it was selling fast and I didn't want to lose out. That's why I bought it sight unseen, before we moved!"

"I know," Bessie nodded, "but that advertisement said the land was good! Look at it! It's worthless! We've been swindled!"

"I wondered why that land agent in town wouldn't ride out here with us," Herman grumbled. "He sure was in a hurry to get us out of his office!"

Shrugging their shoulders, the couple set about to dig a well and build a cabin.

Some weeks passed, and one day the land agent who had sold the property to the Bumbles was surprised and a little alarmed when Herman Bumble paid him a visit.

"Well—uh—how's everything out at your place, Mr. Bumble?" he stammered.

"Mr. Shyler, you know that land of yours isn't worth a plugged nickel," Herman said, "and I am to do something about it?"

"Now hold on!" Shyler began nervously. "It's too late to do anything about it. You're just stuck with it, and you've only yourself to blame for not investigating it before you bought it!"

"I still aim to do something about it," Herman vowed. "I notice you haven't been able to sell any of the other sections in that area. I want to buy them."

Shyler's jaw dropped open with surprise. "That's right," Herman continued. "I aim to start a hotel out there, and I need the

rest of the land around so the view won't be cut off. I've come to make you an offer."

Shyler stared in disbelief, wondering how a man could be so stupid as to want to build a hotel in the middle of the prairie.

"Why—sure," he exclaimed, eager for the opportunity to get rid of the worthless land, "and you're in luck too. I just lowered the price on the land yesterday!"

"That's what I heard," Herman grinned. "Let's make the deal at the bank right now."

Still shaking his head in disbelief, Shyler gathered the necessary papers. An hour later at the bank, with the money for the sale safely in his hands, Shyler could no longer hold back his laughter.

"I've seen eastern greenhorns do some mighty wild things in my time," he chuckled, "but this one takes the prize! Nobody will ever stay at a hotel in the middle of an empty prairie!"

"Oh, on the contrary," the banker remarked. "Mr. Bumble will have no trouble keeping the hotel filled, since it'll soon be the center of a brand-new town!"

"Wh—what do you mean?" Shyler gulped.

"When Mr. Bumble was digging a well, he discovered a bed of salt on his property. He contacted an expert from the East who has since determined that the entire area is one huge, valuable salt deposit."

The banker smiled with satisfaction. "We are going to have one of the biggest land and mining booms out here you ever saw, and now since you've sold the last of the land to Mr. Bumble, he owns it all!"

Shyler's eyes clouded with anger. "I've been tricked! Swindled!"

Well, now I wouldn't say that!" The man returned gently. "You're only yourself to blame for not investigating the property before you sold it to me, Mr. Shyler."

Famous Texans

Captain Richard King
FOUNDER OF AN EMPIRE

AT AN AUCTION OF SURPLUS WAR GOODS SHORTLY AFTER THE MEXICAN WAR, YOUNG CAPTAIN RICHARD KING INVESTED HIS LIFE SAVINGS OF SEVERAL HUNDRED DOLLARS AND BOUGHT THE BOAT HE HAD SHIPPED DURING THE WAR.



THE LEAKY OLD SCOW WAS BARELY ABLE TO NAVIGATE THE CURRENTS OF THE TREACHEROUS RIO GRANDE, BUT IT SERVED CAPTAIN KING'S PURPOSE.



FREIGHTING SETTLERS AND SUPPLIES UP THE RIVER TO TEXAS' FAR-FLUNG OUTPOSTS, THE TWENTY-FOUR-YEAR-OLD CAPTAIN SOON HAD A PROSPEROUS BUSINESS.



YET HE ALSO HAD A DREAM. FROM THE FIRST TIME HE SAW THE UNCHARTED PRAIRIE THAT ROLLED AWAY TOWARD THE NUCCES, KNOWN AS WILD HORSE DESERT, RICHARD KING ENVISIONED FOUNDING A GREAT CATTLE EMPIRE IN TEXAS.



WITH THE MONEY FROM HIS SHIPPING VENTURE, KING AND A PARTNER CAPTAIN SIDSON LEWIS OF THE TEXAS RANGERS, ESTABLISHED THEIR FIRST COW CAMP FAR INLAND ON THE SANTA GERTRUDIS CREEK.



GRADUALLY, AS FINANCES PERMITTED, THEY BOUGHT ADJOINING LAND, UNTIL THEIR "RANCHO" BEGAN TO SPREAD FROM HORIZON TO HORIZON.



UNFORTUNATELY, LEWIS WAS KILLED IN A GUN BATTLE, AND CAPTAIN KING, UNABLE TO HANDLE BOTH HIS FREIGHTING BUSINESS AND THE RANCH, CALLED IN ANOTHER OLD FRIEND, WIFFLIN KENEDY, TO HELP HIM.



DURING THE YEARS OF THE BIG CATTLE DRIVE, KING AND KENEDY SENT THOUSANDS OF STEERS TO MARKET.



BUT KENEDY WAS A SAILOR, NOT A CATTLE-MAN, AND HE EVENTUALLY ASKED KING TO BUY HIM OUT. THIS TIME KING DID NOT TAKE IN ANOTHER PARTNER.



THE 1870'S WERE HARD YEARS IN TEXAS. THERE WAS FLOOD AND DROUGHT, AND THEN THE BOTTOM DROPPED OUT OF THE CATTLE BUSINESS.



BUT THROUGH IT ALL, CAPTAIN KING KEPT BUILDING HIS RANCH...BUYING MORE LAND AND RAISING SHEEP AND HORSES, AS WELL AS CATTLE.



JUST WHEN IT SEEMED HIS DREAM HAD BEEN FULFILLED, TRAGEDY STRUCK. HIS ONLY SON PASSED AWAY AFTER A SUDDEN ILLNESS.



IN A MOMENT OF DESPAIR, RICHARD KING DECIDED TO GIVE UP RANCHING. HE OPENED NEGOTIATIONS WITH AN ENGLISH SYNDICATE TO BUY HIM OUT—LOCK STOCK AND BARREL.



ARRIVING AT THE RANCH, THE ENGLISHMEN CLIMBERED TO THE TOP OF THEIR COACH TO VIEW, IN AMAZEMENT, THE GREAT HERD OF 12,000 STEERS, ROUNDED UP FOR THEIR INSPECTION...



BUT WHEN THEY OVERHEARD CAPTAIN KING REPRIMANDING HIS FOREMAN FOR ROUNDING UP SUCH A SMALL HERD, THEIR AMAZEMENT TURNED TO DISBELIEF...



AND THEN TO GOWDY, AS CAPTAIN KING VOUCHERED THAT HE COULD ROUND UP FIVE OR SIX MORE HERDS THE SIZE OF THIS ONE!



APOLGIZING FOR HAVING TAKEN UP HIS TIME, THE ENGLISHMEN DEPARTED, AFTER EXPLAINING THAT THE SYNDICATE COULD NOT PURCHASE EVEN THIS FIRST HERD OF CATTLE, LET ALONE FIVE OR SIX MORE LIKE IT, PLUS 600,000 ACRES OF LAND.



AT THAT, CAPTAIN KING LOST ALL DESIRE TO SELL, FOR HIS DREAM HAD COME TRUE...HE HAD BUILT AN EMPIRE SO HUGE THAT NO ONE COULD AFFORD TO BUY IT FROM HIM!



RICHARD KING DIED IN 1888, BUT THE GREAT RANCH, THE FAMOUS RUNNING W BRAND, THE HERDS OF SANTA GERTRUDIS CATTLE, AND THE BLOODIED HORSES, ALL SURVIVE HIM TO THIS DAY, ALMOST AS HE LEFT THEM.



Jack Parnow's
Tales of the
**TEXAS
RANGERS**

**TERROR AT
CANYON CROSSING**

IN THE EARLY DAYS OF TEXAS,
RAILROADING WAS A HAZARDOUS
BUSINESS...



BUT WITH TEXAS RANGERS LIKE JACE
PARRSON AND CLAY HOGGAN ON THE JOB,
THE GRABING TRAIN ROBBERS WERE SOON
BROUGHT TO JUSTICE...



DON'T SHOOT!
WE GIVE UP!

NICE WORK, BOYS! THESE
JASPER'S WERE GOING TO
PICK US
CLEAN!



THERE WERE
OTHERS, HOWEVER,
WHO ATTACKED
THE
RAILROADS,
NOT FOR GAIN,
BUT
REVENGE...

THE TRAIN'LL BE
ALONG ANY
MINUTE, ZEKE!
WHEN IT HITS THIS
CURVE, IT'LL BE
ALL OVER!







JACE MAKES THE DANGEROUS TRANSFER TO THE TRAIN...

WHAT IN TARNATION?



AND PULLS HARD ON THE BRAKE...

KEY???

TRACKS OUT AHEAD!



THE HUGE METAL WHEELS GRIND TO A HALT JUST INCHES FROM DISASTER...

SCREEECH!



MOMENTS LATER...

WHEN! THANKS, RANGER! THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL!

WHO WOULD DO A THING LIKE THIS? WHAT COULD BE THE MOTIVE? ...ONE THING SURE, **SOMEONE** IS OUT TO WRECK THE TRAIN!



WHAT DO YOU THINK, JACE?

HARD TO TELL! WHOEVER IT WAS, RODE OUT THAT WAY! TWO OF THEM!

YOU BOYS HAVE QUITE A JOB ON YOUR HANDS! I CAN'T IMAGINE WHO WOULD DO A THING LIKE THIS! IT MUST BE THE WORK OF A MAD-MAN!

OR TWO MADMEN! BUT DON'T WORRY! WHOEVER THEY ARE, WE'LL GET THEM!



WHEN WE REACH TEXAS RIDGE, WE'LL SEND A MAINTENANCE CREW OUT TO FIX THE TRACKS!



A FEW DAYS LATER...

I'VE TALKED TO ALMOST EVERYONE IN TOWN, JAKE, AND HAVEN'T TURNED UP A THING!

I HAVEN'T HAD ANY LUCK, EITHER. WE'LL JUST HAVE TO KEEP LOOKING!



ALL WE NEED IS ONE BREAK... WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHO IS BEHIND THE SABOTAGE!

I HOPE THAT BREAK COMES SOON! IF IT DOESN'T, WE COULD HAVE A REAL TRAGEDY ON OUR HANDS!



AT THAT MOMENT, INSIDE A SMALL RANCH HOUSE A FEW MILES FROM TEXAS RIDGE...

PLEASE, ZEK! WON'T YOU LISTEN TO REASON?

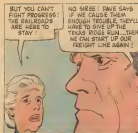
I TOLD YOU I WAS THROUGH TALKING, MARTHA! JUST YOU STAY OUT OF IT!



FOR MY SAKE PLEASE STOP WHAT YOU'RE DOING! YOU KNOW IT'S WRONG!

IS IT WRONG TO FIGHT BACK AT THE PEOPLE WHO PUT ME'N DAVE OUT OF BUSINESS? THAT'S WHAT THOSE RAILROADERS DID!





THIS WAY, WE MAY BE ABLE
TO STOP YOUR HUSBAND BEFORE
HE DOES SOMETHING HE'LL
REALLY BE SORRY FOR!

HE'LL HAVE TO
BE PUNISHED...
BUT IT MIGHT
GO EASIER!



I THOUGHT THAT OVER...AND
I KNOW HE'LL HAVE TO FACE
A JUDGE FOR WHAT HE'S
ALREADY DONE... BUT A
PRISON SENTENCE IS BETTER
THAN LOSING HIM FOREVER!



YOU JUST LEAD
THE WAY, MRS.
BRAGAN!

OUR HOME'S NOT
FAR FROM HERE!



SOMETIME LATER...

IT'S TAKING
A LOT OF
COURAGE TO DO
WHAT THIS WOMAN
IS DOING!



HE'S GONE!
MAYBE THE
BARN!

I HOPE WE'RE
NOT TOO LATE!

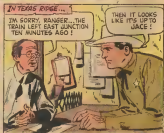


A QUICK SEARCH OF THE BARN YIELDS THE FUTURE...

THIS IS WHERE THEY
MADE THEIR PLANS...
KEPT THEIR EQUIPMENT!

EQUIPMENT?











A TREATY ON HORSEBACK



Texas Rangers not only kept Texans at peace but also protected them from troublemakers south of the Rio Grande.



On one such occasion, a large number of armed Mexican horsemen gathered and were intent on crossing into Texas. Rangers, dispatched to divert trouble, soon learned that the group sought the return of political refugees who had fled across the river to avoid punishment.



Before advancing further, the chief of the Políticos shouted, "We're set to fight, but we'd like to know whom we are to fight!" The answer echoed, "Rangers, Texas Rangers!" ... and the men lowered their guns.



"We'll fight American soldiers, but not Texas Rangers! We offer a treaty!" the reply came. And so, two couriers plied back and forth on horseback, until terms of a treaty were reached between the groups.



To conclude the transaction, two men from each side rode into the river to sign the document ... the only peace treaty ever signed on horseback in midstream between the Mexicans and the Americans.

DELL COMICS ARE GOOD COMICS

A PLEDGE **DELL** TO PARENTS
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THE Texas Rangers TODAY and YESTERDAY



During the early days of Texas, the Rangers patrolled the border against marauding bands of every type. There was the duty of halting lawlessness wherever it was found. Their reputation for courage became almost legendary.



The Rangers of the Old West were a tough and hardy lot. Often their lives depended on their speed and accuracy with a gun. Outlaws soon came to fear and respect them.



Today, the Rangers are still qualified marksmen, but are actually a more formidable foe of outlaws due to their use of modern methods and equipment.



In the early days, the Texas Rangers consisted of about 170 men. They were expected to patrol the entire length and breadth of Texas. Today, there are only about 50 Rangers to cover the same area.



Modern Rangers travel even more miles than before. Each Ranger is furnished a patrol car, but buys his own horse and guns. The Texas Rangers are among the most highly regarded police forces of our times.

The SEAGOING RANGERS

TEXAS

THE RANGERS

HOUSTON

VELAZCO

BAY OF COPANO

MEXICO

GULF OF

MEXICO



Most people think of the Texas Rangers as fighting plainmen. During the Texas struggle for independence of 1836, however, there was one occasion when they went to sea. In the Bay of Copano, a company of Rangers surprised a ship laden with provisions for the Mexican army.



The Rangers quickly seized the vessel and forced the crew to surrender. After having captured the enemy, the Texans made ready to sail the ship to the port of Velasco.



Due to unfavorable sailing conditions, they were forced to remain in the bay. Before they were able to depart, two other Mexican merchant ships also pulled into the harbor.



The Rangers forced the captain of the captured ship to call to the officers of the other ships. As they came aboard, the officers were taken prisoner, and soon after, their crews also surrendered to the Rangers.



All three ships sailed to Velasco under guard of the Rangers. Upon arrival, the Texans delivered the ships and their prisoners. For this action, they were publicly acclaimed, "seagoing Rangers."